

SENATE RESOLUTION 81
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION To recognize and thank the Airport Minority Advisory Council, AMAC, for its commitment to helping Tennessee's minority, female, and disadvantaged business owners.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those exemplary individuals who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, One such group of individuals are the members of the Airport Minority Advisory Council, AMAC, a non-profit trade group based out of Virginia whose aim is to increase the level of minority, women, and other disadvantaged businesses' participation in the procurement and concession contracts in our nation's airports; and

WHEREAS, The Memphis International Airport is one of the founding members of the thirteen-year-old group known as AMAC, which currently has more than 600 members; and

WHEREAS, Through the AMAC, minority- and women-owned businesses can build contacts and learn how to better market themselves to compete for airport contracts, which is becoming increasingly evident at the Memphis International Airport; and

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WHEREAS, With the AMAC's help, the Memphis International Airport's disadvantaged business enterprises' participation over the past few years has grown from 19.29% to 22.5%, as the airport continues to strive toward its goal of at least 25% DBE participation; and

WHEREAS, Historically, minority- and women-owned businesses face considerable barriers in terms of competing for airport contracts, with a lack of access to capital being one of them; and

WHEREAS, Federal regulations state that at least ten percent of all the businesses at airports that sell food, beverages, and printed materials and provide ground transportation and automobile rentals, among other products and services, are small businesses, owned and controlled by disadvantaged business enterprises; and

WHEREAS, Let us join Memphis in great anticipation, and be the first to welcome AMAC members, as it has been announced that this 2003 National Conference will be coming to Memphis; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we commend the Airport Minority Advisory Council on its meritorious service and applaud their steadfast commitment to empowering the minority, the woman, and the disadvantaged business owners in this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.